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HONORABLE BAEK DONG SOO

by LEE Jae-Heon

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Honorable Baek Dong Soo v6 c39

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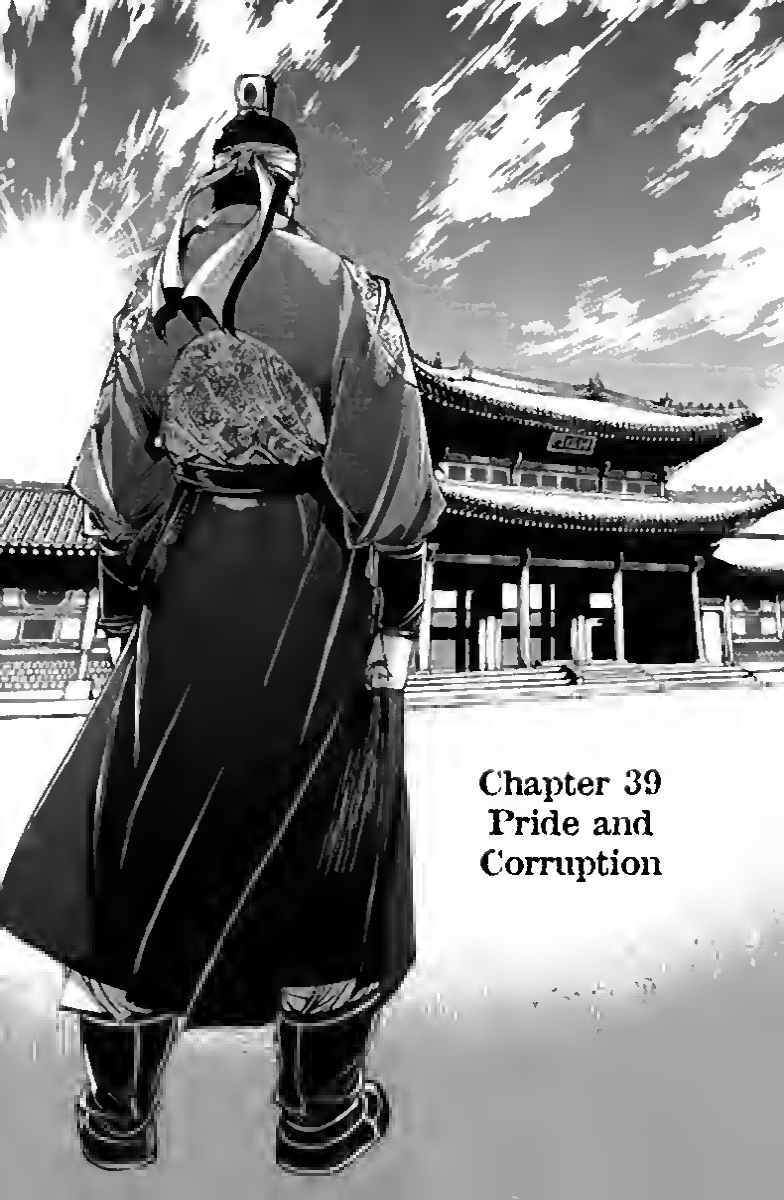


Chapter 39
Pride and Corruption

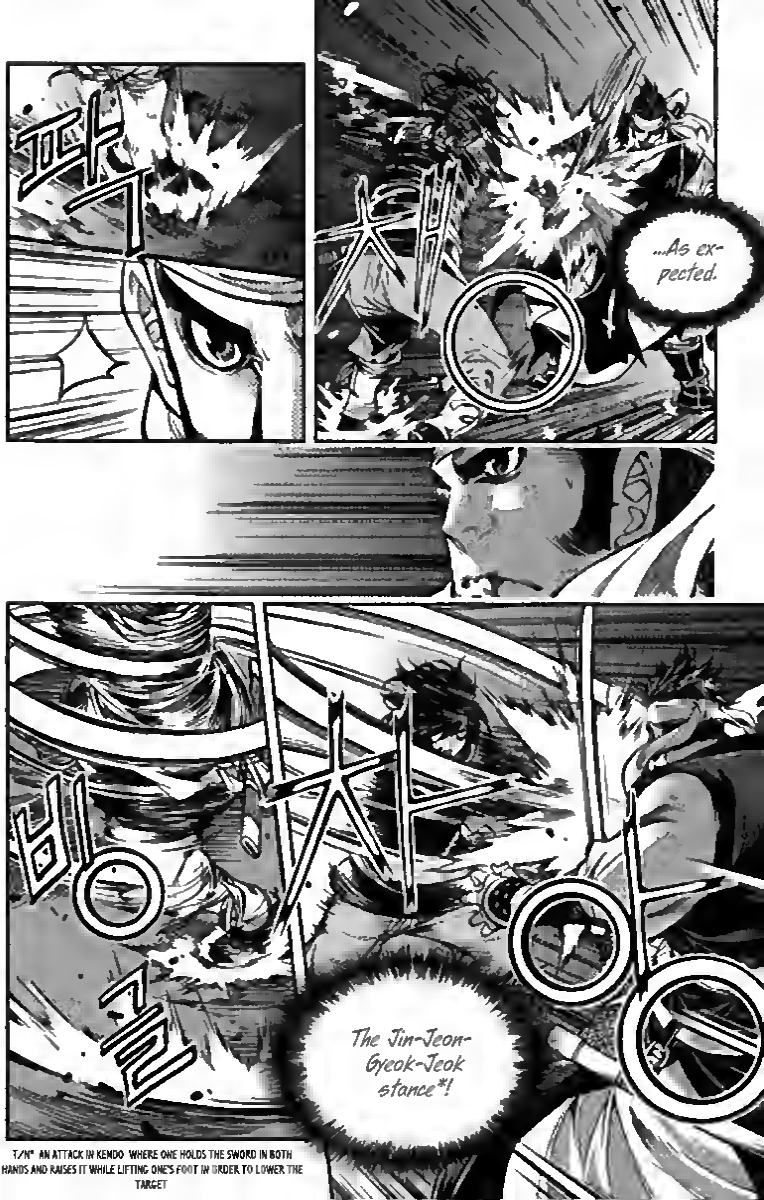
...WHAT?
YOU DO REALIZE THAT JUST BY SAYING THIS WILL PUT YOUR LIFE IN DANGER?
THAT'S WHY I'VE ALREADY RECEIVED THREATS FROM THE CROWN PRINCE.
IF I THREATEN TO KILL THE CROWN PRINCE WHO DIDN'T TAKE HIS ARMY WITH HIM AND WENT ALONE, EVEN IF THE PYONGAN PROVINCE IS THE ARMY'S MOST IMPORTANT PLACE, IT WILL STILL HAVE A STRONG IMPACT.
.....

THE FACT THAT HWI-RYANG JUNG, THE GENERAL INSPECTOR OF PYONGAN, BETRAYED THE CROWN PRINCE AND THAT REASON ARE PROBABLY RELATED.
WHY THE DIVISION BETWEEN THE SOUTH AND THE WEST IS SO BAD FOR SO LONG IS BECAUSE OF ONE REASON
.....
IT'S THE EXPEDITIONS OF THE NORTH!
A PERFECT EXAMPLE OF A REBELLION OF THE WEAK AGAINST THE STRONG, WHERE RIGHTS AND MORALS ARE COMPLETELY IGNORED!
FOR A NOBODY LIKE YOU, YOU SURE HAVE A LOT TO SAY.
!

I SAID THAT I WOULD ONLY SPEAK WITH MY SWORD.
I'll free the land of my ancestors!
I'LL FIGHT WITH ALL MY STRENGTH!
ALL RIGHT, THAT'S FINE
Thump
...Geum-Gye-Dok-Rip*?
He's trying to use the Bon-Gook* technique?!

T/N* A STANCE WHERE ONE STANDS ON HIS RIGHT FOOT AND HOLDS HIS SWORD AGAINST HIS RIGHT SHOULDER. THIS ALLOWS FOR QUICK ROTATIONAL MOVEMENT WHEN ATTACKING THE OPPONENT

T/N* A QUICK SEQUENCE OF STEPS AND POSTURES. STEP NUMBER 4 IS THE GEUM-GYE DOK RIP STANCE, WHICH LEADS INTO A SERIES OF JUMPS AND SPINS. THE SWORD IS HELD AT NECK LEVEL SO TO ATTACK THE HEAD AREA



T/N* AN ATTACK IN KENDO WHERE ONE HOLDS THE SWORD IN BOTH HANDS AND RAISES IT WHILE LIFTING ONE'S FOOT IN ORDER TO LOWER THE TARGET

NOTE 1: JEON-GI: THE RIGHT FOOT GOES BEHIND THE LEFT FOOT AS THE WHOLE BODY MAKES A 360 DEGREE TURN TO THE RIGHT. THE SWORD, STARTING FROM THE RIGHT, MOVES IN ONE LONG STRIKE IN AN UPWARD SLICE. THE NAME GEUK-GO = MEANING LIGHTNING. COMES FR M THE FACT THAT THE SWING IS FAST AS LIGHTNING.

NOTE 2: HYANG-WOO-BANG-JEOK: WHILE DRAGGING THE LEFT FOOT, SWING PULLS THE SWORD BACK TO HIS LEFT SHOULDER, WHICH INITIALLY CHESTIER SWINGS TO THE RIGHT IN ONE LONG, HORIZONTAL STRIKE WHILE RAISING THE LEFT KNEE SOON AFTER.

URGH!
That was dangerous. If I didn't use both my hands...
Like I thought, it was the Hyang Woo-Bang-Jeok.
But it's different. That just now was not a Bon-Gook technique...
...it was the Jae-Dok* technique!
!

T/N*: LIKE BON-GOOK, A SERIES OF MOVES.

Geo-Jeong, the first position in the basic swordsmanship of the military camp.
Starts with the sword at head height, then mid height, then two quick strikes!
타
다
TN: THE CHINESE CHARACTERS IN THIS CASE ARE "HIGH KILL" AND "LOW KILL." BUT THESE TERMS ONLY INDICATE WHERE THE SWORD SHOULD BE HELD.

Low height.
Mid height.

Sword at mid height again?!
He caught me off-guard, but that was just a fluke!
I need more room!

T/N* ONE OF THE STEPS IN THE SEQUENCE

Bon-Gook technique... a stab?!

I can't believe it...
I don't know about Bon-Gook, but I'm sure the Jae-Dok style wouldn't be taught at the military camps
How did he learn my sword style? By fighting me?!
No, if he has good eyes, it's possible to copy my sword style
But that's not important

This brat! In such a short time, he used 3 types of sword styles in one sequence!
THAT'S IMPOSSIBLE!
IRK!
It's possible from a theoretical standpoint. Everything can be broken down to just the basics. Depending on how it's used, anything can happen
However, that's just a myth in martial arts
Combining moves with completely different techniques while on the verge of losing his life... that's crazy!

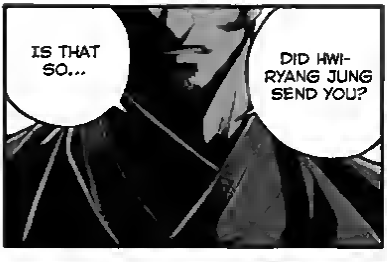
I CAN READ YOUR EMOTIONS. IS THIS WHAT TALKING WITH SWORDS MEANS?
WHAT A NEW FEELING.
ARE YOU NOT GOING TO SAY ANYTHING?
CHAOS...
CON-FUSION...
UNCER-TAINTY
!!

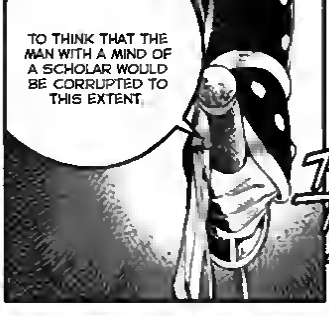
WHAT ABOUT MY STORY?!
ARE YOU NOT LISTENING TO MY STORY?!
I... can't hear it?
Me?
But how?
!
WHAT?
Swirk

WHY ARE YOU SMILING?
Why do I still want to cross swords with this brat, regardless of his story.
!
HUH, UNNI?
WHAT'S WRONG, UNNI?
MEN AREN'T AWARE OF THEIR SURROUNDINGS AFTER ALL.

A killing intent?!
!!
QUICK, TURN AROUND!
THERE'S A PROBLEM!!
!
!

YOU BASTARDS ARE FROM THE PROVINCIAL OFFICE FROM BEFORE...


IS THAT SO...
DID HWI-RYANG JUNG SEND YOU?


TO THINK THAT THE MAN WITH A MIND OF A SCHOLAR WOULD BE CORRUPTED TO THIS EXTENT.

YOU ARE JUST AS CORRUPTED AS HE IS!

DON'T YOU FIGHT FOR THE JAPANESE ARMY WITH YOUR SWORDS?
WHO HAVE YOU SOLD YOUR SAMURAI'S PRIDE TO?

.....

IT SEEMS THAT THERE ISN'T ANY PRIDE LEFT.

YOU CHATTER AWAY QUITE WELL, KOREAN
!
WE DO NOT EXPECT YOU, THE ONES WHO VALUE WORDS SO HIGHLY, TO UNDERSTAND, BUT
TO PROTECT THE GENERATION OF SWORDSMAN, THERE IS NO REASON FOR YOU TO ACT LIKE YOU'RE SUFFERING FROM CONDEMNATIONS.

To gang up on a simple merchant with six Japanese swordsmen...
!
LISTEN UP.
?
LEAVE THIS PLACE RIGHT NOW AND HEAD FOR THE GI-RIN VALLEY.
HIS HIGHNESS IS WAITING THERE.

I'M STILL NOT SURE IF YOU ARE ABLE TO INHERIT IT,
BUT YOU HAVE TO KEEP WHAT YOU KNOW A SECRET FROM THOSE INVOLVED IN THE DIVISION BETWEEN THE SOUTH AND THE WEST FOR NOW, NO MATTER WHAT.
IF I CAN'T KILL YOU NOW, THEN MY DECISION IS TO MAKE SURE YOU LIVE AND TO SEND YOU TO THAT PLACE.
GO.
UH, UM...
Inheritance? What?
QUICKLY!!
HUH... YOU ALL... WILL DIE HERE!

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